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SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR DS/TIA/ITA

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PTER](#)  
SUBJECT: ANNUAL CRIME EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

REF: STATE 13020

[1](#)1. (U) Crime Mobility into Emboff Neighborhoods

(c/d): Criminals continue to focus on the soft/easy targets, including affluent neighborhoods and neighborhoods where emboffs reside. Since February 2008, there have been three home intrusions at emboff residences. The majority of crime in emboff neighborhoods is theft (burglaries from homes, vehicles, and property) and vehicle vandalism. With forecasts of higher unemployment and a worsening economy for Hungary this year, Post expects an increase in crime, especially those that result in quick financial gains.

[1](#)2. (U) Crime Ambience around Emboff Neighborhoods

(b) Although emboff neighborhoods are not located in high crime areas, all neighborhoods in Budapest experience criminal activity.

[1](#)3. (U) Aggressiveness of Criminals

(b/c) Two of the three emboff home intrusions occurred when the residents were at home and asleep. Violent crimes increased by 11.3 percent since last year which indicates that criminals are less concerned with confrontation.

[1](#)4. (U) Arming of Criminals

(b) Criminals are usually armed with some kind of tool (sharp object like a knife or blunt instrument) to break into homes and vehicles. If a confrontation ensues during a burglary, these tools may be used as intimidation or used against the victim.

[1](#)5. (U) Aggregation of Criminals

(b) Most street crimes involve small groups that work together to conduct smash and grab thefts, use lookouts and entry persons for home burglaries, and work as a team during distraction ruses/pick pocketing scams.

[1](#)6. (U) Deterrence/Response of Police

(b/c) Due to limited resources, police patrols are mainly conducted in high crime areas and government and tourist sections of the city. Residential security measures are based on individual homeowner decisions. Most homes in emboff neighborhoods are protected by alarms and by dogs. Local city districts use surveillance cameras to deter crime in business and government areas.

[1](#)7. (U) Training/Professionalism of Police

(b) The national police continues to experience large turnover because of low salaries. For those officers who are eligible to retire, they do so immediately upon eligibility because they earn more money in retirement. Last year, the vacant positions with the Budapest Police rose to approximately 30 percent, mainly due to the high cost of living in the city and the low salary level. With an increase in violent crime in the past few months, government officials are calling for an increased police force throughout the country. The USG and EU provide specialized and management level training to the Hungarian Police.

Foley